

Commission, the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact and the ODOT Transportation Futures Steering Committee.

Throughout his career, Senator Patton has been recognized with a number of awards and accolades. He has been named Legislator of the Year by the Ohio Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), an Honorary D.A.R.E. Officer by the D.A.R.E. Association of Ohio, Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council Legislator of the Year for Protecting Consumer Choice Award and the Legislator of the Year by the Ohio Professional Society of Engineers. He has also received the Moms for Ohio Public Service Award, the FOP Distinguished Public Servant Award, Ohio Public Images Award, Ohio Alpaca Breeders Association Legislator Award and has been recognized by the Autism Society of Ohio.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Mr. Thomas Patton for being honored by the West Tech Alumni Association and being named to the West Tech High School Hall of Fame.

HONORING MATHEW A. BRUNO

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 3, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of a beloved leader in the Modesto community, Mathew A. Bruno. Matt was born in Akron, Ohio, on December 25, 1943, and passed away surrounded by his family on September 19, 2011, in Modesto, California.

In 1946, at the age of 3, he and his family moved to Ripon, California. Growing up in Ripon he farmed peaches, almonds, and grapes with his father Tony and his two brothers Joe and Ed. Matt graduated from Ripon High School in 1961. In 1966, he left the family farming operation, and bought La Loma Liquors in Modesto.

Matt married Barbara Claypool in 1967, and together they owned and operated La Loma Liquors until they sold the business in 1972. Matt then purchased Turlock Appliance Center, and one year later purchased Miller Dairy Supply. In 1974, he merged the two companies to form Turlock Dairy & Refrigeration, Inc., a 65-employee company on South Walnut Road that played a key role in the expansion of dairy farming in the area. With Turlock Dairy & Refrigeration, Matt focused the business on dairy construction, dairy equipment, and dairy refrigeration. Matt loved all things agriculture and owned several other agriculture-related businesses through the years.

"He always put his customers and employees first," said son Tony Bruno. "He always told my brother and me that the only thing we could offer as a company is to have good service."

Throughout their 44 years of marriage, Matt and Barbara enjoyed traveling together and entertaining their many friends at their home. Matt loved tending his garden at home and sharing the bounty with anyone and everyone. He was very generous in every aspect of life; always ready to give to someone in need, whether they be in need of money, food, time, or a drink. "You can't walk on one leg!" is what Matt would say if you tried to leave after

having only one glass of wine. He was the most gracious host and loved being surrounded by people. In fact, Matt's greatest joy was spending time with his family and friends, especially his three grandchildren.

Mr. Bruno and his wife, Barbara, often held a fund-raising dinner for the Education Foundation of Stanislaus County. He also was involved with the Center for Human Services, the Memorial Hospital Foundation and other causes.

Matt is predeceased in death by his parents Tony and Martha Bruno and his brother Joe Bruno. He is survived by his wife Barbara Bruno, his son Tony (Gretta) Bruno, his son Mathew (Natalie) Bruno, and his three grandchildren Francesca, Matteo, and Rocco.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Matt Bruno for his unwavering leadership, and recognizing his accomplishments and contributions. The life of Matt Bruno serves as an example of excellence to those in our community, and his legacy will not be soon forgotten.

HONORING NATIONAL WOMEN'S
POLITICAL CAUCUS OF CALI-
FORNIA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 3, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the National Women's Political Caucus of California, NWPC CA, who are celebrating 100 years of women voting in California, starting with the historic and narrowly won California state referendum and the first California Civic League, Berkeley Forum led by Miss Blanche Morse in 1911. It is an immense honor to represent Bay Area communities who have truly been at the forefront of a century's worth of major achievements in social justice.

Furthermore, NWPC is celebrating the 40th anniversary of its founding in 1971, when 320 women from 26 states met under the leadership of women's movement stalwarts like my mentor, former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, Bella Abzug, Gloria Steinem, and Betty Friedan. Four decades later, their work to empower women elected leaders and to champion citizens' informed participation in civic affairs has changed America as we know it.

Within NWPC's first three years of recruitment and leadership programming, the number of female state officeholders increased by 36 percent. Now, as a multi-partisan organization supporting an unprecedented era of women's leadership, NWPC and its California Chapter are making strides to achieve equality for all women, to ensure their reproductive freedom, and to eradicate all forms of discrimination.

As members of the National Women's Political Caucus of California, you are part of a magnificent legacy. By broadening women's participation in the political process and honing feminist women for election and appointment to public office, you are championing the vision, hopes and sacrifices of our forebears. You have pledged to continue to be the kind of bold pioneer and astute advocates who led us to this point. Therefore, I would like to thank you for your dedicated service in guiding and encouraging women toward civic engagement.

On behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, I would like to congratulate you on this milestone and thank you for the invaluable service you provide to our community. I wish the National Women's Political Caucus' local, state and national members all the best as you forge ahead toward another 100 years of bolstering women's leadership, promoting equitable policies and creating a more just and peaceful world.

IN HONOR OF MR. KENNETH
SWADE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 3, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Kenneth Swade who is being inducted into the West Tech High School Hall of Fame by the West Tech Alumni Association.

While attending West Tech High School, Kenneth was a member of the 1956 and 1957 cross country state championship teams. He graduated from West Tech in 1958 and attended Bowling Green University on an athletic scholarship, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education in 1962. Upon graduating, he began teaching and coaching at Kennard Junior High. In 1964, Kenneth returned to West Tech High School as a teacher and coach. While teaching, Kenneth studied at John Carroll University, where he earned a Master of Arts in Education, focusing on psychology and counseling. After finishing his graduate program in 1968, Kenneth began working as a counselor at A.B. Hart Junior High School. In 1980 he was named School-to-Work Apprenticeship Coordinator. Kenneth enrolled at Kent State University to further his education again and in 1983 graduated with a Master of Arts in Education, focusing on Administration and Supervision. Before retiring in 2001, he spent his career as vocational coordinator at Max. S. Hayes, West Tech, Jane Addams Business Careers and East Technical high schools.

Throughout his career, Kenneth was recognized with a number of awards and accolades. He has been named "Outstanding Educator," "Outstanding Vocational Coordinator" twice, "Man of the Year Award" by the Rotary Club of Cleveland, and "Most Outstanding Senior High School Teacher." In 1996, the Ohio Department of Education named him to the Ohio Vocational Educational Leadership Institute.

In addition to his career as an educator Kenneth has been an active member of his community. For several years, he was the Teacher/Coordinator for the Action for Children and Youth in Transition. After retiring in 2001 to Florida with his wife, Dr. Vera Swade, he is serving as President of the Central Citrus Rotary and was also the Council President of his church.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Mr. Kenneth Swade for being honored by West Tech Alumni Association and being named to the West Tech High School Hall of Fame.